

**REMARKS**

Reconsideration of the above-identified application in view of the foregoing amendments and following remarks is respectfully requested.

A. Claim Status / Explanation of Amendments

Claims 1-8 are pending, of which claims 1-2 and 5-8 were rejected while claims 3-4 have been objected to. At the outset, the indication of allowable subject matter in claims 3-4 is acknowledged with appreciation. These claims were not rejected, but were merely objected as being dependent on a rejected base claim. [8/7/07 Office Action, p. 4]. As to the merits, claims 1-2 and 5-8 were rejected pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by European Patent No. EP 0 790 513 B1 to Takeshi, et al. ("Takeshi"). [8/7/07 Office Action, p. 2].

Applicant notes that there is no indication the Examiner has considered the Preliminary Amendment dated July 8, 2003 which was submitted as part of the original application packet and includes an amendment to claim 8 as well as new claims 9-14. Moreover, Applicant assumes that the July 8, 2003 Preliminary Amendment has been entered and respectfully requests consideration of its teachings.

By this paper, claims 1 and 4 are amended while claims 3 and 10 are canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Applicant reserves the right to pursue canceled claims in a continuing application. Claim 1 is amended to include the limitations of canceled dependent claim 3. Claim 4 is rewritten in independent form and is also amended to include the limitations of previously pending claim 1. Claims 1 and 4 have been further amended such that "curved reflection surfaces" is changed to "off-axial reflection surfaces." Support for the changes to

claims 1 and 4 can be found throughout the application as originally filed including, for example, p. 5, lns. 20-23.

No new matter will be introduced into this application by entry of these amendments. Entry is respectfully requested.

B. Informal Matters

Since claim 1 has been rewritten to include the limitations of allowed claim 3 and allowed claim 4 has been rewritten in independent form, incorporating the limitations of base claim 1, the Office Action's rejection of claim 1 as allegedly being anticipated by Takeshi is respectfully asserted to be moot. Since claims 2, 5-9, and 11-14 depend either directly or indirectly from claims 1 and 4, they are asserted to be in condition for allowance. Claims 3 and 10 have been canceled, thereby rendering any rejection or objection of these claims as moot. Applicant submits that all of the pending claims are now allowable and early, favorable action in that regard is respectfully requested.

Applicant has chosen in the interest of expediting prosecution of this patent application to distinguish the cited documents from the pending claims as set forth above. These statements should not be regarded in any way as admissions that the cited documents are, in fact, prior art. Finally, Applicant has not specifically addressed the rejections of the dependent claims. Applicant respectfully submits that the independent claims, from which they depend, are in condition for allowance as set forth above. Accordingly, the dependent claims also are in condition for allowance. Applicant, however, reserves the right to address such rejections of the dependent claims in the future as appropriate.

**CONCLUSION**

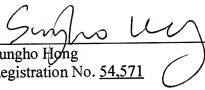
For the above-stated reasons, this application is respectfully asserted to be in condition for allowance. An early and favorable examination on the merits is earnestly solicited. In the event that a telephone conference would facilitate the examination of this application in any way, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the number provided.

THE COMMISSIONER IS HEREBY AUTHORIZED TO CHARGE ANY ADDITIONAL FEES WHICH MAY BE REQUIRED FOR THE TIMELY CONSIDERATION OF THIS AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 AND 1.17, OR CREDIT ANY OVERPAYMENT TO DEPOSIT ACCOUNT NO. 13-4500, ORDER NO. 1232-5073.

Respectfully submitted,  
MORGAN & FINNEGAN, L.L.P.

Dated: November 7, 2007

By: \_\_\_\_\_

  
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